



## **"Prosperity Planner" Fact Sheet**

### **The Planner:**

- Determines the earnings required for a family to be self-sufficient, i.e. to meet its needs without any public assistance
- Helps low income individuals and jobseekers with career planning and budgeting
- Can be used to test scenarios, such as whether a career path or specific job will pay enough to cover your family's needs or how moving to another county might affect your expenses and can be used in conjunction with other electronic workforce development resources like [www.lmatchskills.org](http://www.lmatchskills.org), [www.OLMIS.org](http://www.OLMIS.org) and [www.careerinfonet.org](http://www.careerinfonet.org) to assist in the creation of an individual employment plan.
- Takes into consideration any public subsidies the user receives, and shows subsidies he/she might be eligible for and how to access them
- Gives organizations and individuals the ability to determine the true impact of program on customers' ability to provide for their families and be economically self-sufficient – not just whether they got jobs
- Guides training and education investments toward jobs that lead to self-sufficiency
- Is available to everyone on-line at [www.prosperityplanner.org](http://www.prosperityplanner.org)

### **How is Prosperity Planner used?**

#### **For Front-Line Staff:**

- Helps customers set realistic career and earning goals
- Provides a foundation for basic financial literacy counseling
- Quickly assesses impact of work supports on customer's career/training plan

#### **For Program Customers:**

- Provides accurate cost-of-living and wage information specific to where a person or family resides
- Builds and tracks household budget
- Tests and compares different work/training scenarios or see if a person is eligible for a work support
- Provides links to other resources

#### **For Program Managers:**

- Documents agency impact on client progress toward self-sufficiency

#### **For Policymakers:**

- Measures state and regional progress toward closing the wage-gap for working families
- Provides baseline data to drive workforce development strategies and funding decisions

### **Key Facts about the Planner**

- Expenses are calculated for basic needs (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, miscellaneous and taxes) based on family composition, including ages of dependents and location of residence. Expenses can be modified to accurately reflect the families current expenses
- Based on the "Self-Sufficiency Standard for Oregon 2011", a series of formulas developed by Dr. Diana Pearce of the University of Washington's School of Social Work
- Includes a database that tracks results

**Access the Prosperity Planner at [www.prosperityplanner.org](http://www.prosperityplanner.org)**